The Brethren Evangelist.

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Lenten Hymn.

Blessed Jesus, Holy Savior;
Son of God and Son of man!
Thou, who by Thine Incarnation
Love's redeeming work began,
Thou, who by Thy great temptation,
By Thy fast of forty days,
Conquered sin and vanquished Satan,
Fallen men again didst raise!
Thee we humbly come adoring,
Cast ourselves before Thy face;
All our sins and guilt confessing
Tearfully implore Thy grace.
Bow Thine ear, O Lord, and hear us,
Hear our penitential cry;
As we agonize before Thee,
Save, O save us or we die!
May this solemn Lenten season,
May these days of fasting prove,
Days of holy. sweet communion
For the children of Thy love.
Thus may all our hearts o'erflowing
With a new-born love to Thee,
Wake and join in Easter anthems
Till we rest secure in Thee.

—Ambrose M. Schmidt.

From Lanark, Ill.

In my last I alluded to the fact that Eld. Forncrook, of this city was going to make an attack on trine immersion. He did it. His first effort was made Tuesday evening, March 1st. On the next evening I replied. Not being satisfied, he tried it again on the following Tuesday evening, and I followed again on Wednesday evening. This ended the matter for the present, at least. We think we have made a little progress by this extra labor, and are ready for another attack whenever it may suit those who want to oppose trine-immersion, or any other apostolic practice, to make it.

During this controversial sermonizing, there was considerable religious and denominational interest manifested in the town and in the region around us. Another minister, (Bro. Gans, of the Abrahamic church,) also a single immersionist (of the Eunomian type) became aroused, and last night he tried his hand on Matt. 28: 19. I went to hear him, but think it not necessary to make any reply. He did not attack trine-immersion, but tried to prove that the one baptism of Eph. 4: 5 is water baptism "into the name of Jesus Christ." But he signally failed in his undertaking, as all must ultimately do who depart from the plain commands of Christ.

I am sorry to inform you that, for the time being, Bro. Z. T. Livengood is not able to preach, being prohibited by his physician. On this account, we shall have to drop a meeting in town every other Sunday for awhile. Bro. Joseph Blough, who has been on a visit to friends in the east, has returned, and has consented to fill the appointments at the Bethlehem church on Sunday evenings once in two weeks, till Bro. Livengood can resume his work. This will be a great help in the work, and Bro. Blough will suffer no loss by such labor. Bro. "Zack," as we all call him, is improving, but it must be a terrible cross for a man of his temperament and culture to be told by a doctor that he must quit studying and preaching, even for a little while. I think he will read and study some anyhow; and I should not be surprised to hear of his preaching occasionally, even if he must do it in his dreams. He will work, doctors notwithstanding.

Spring is opening up nicely, and farmers are busily preparing for their siege of spring work. The weather now is beginning to remind me of our California winters. I wonder what Bro. Brown says about the winters in his California lectures.

I might say here that I hear from California and the Pacific coast every week. The cause is alive and moving onward. The Altamont Sunday School is doing well, and we have a reasonable hope of a glorious ingathering there sometime.

I also hear from the city of San Francisco occasionally, and am glad to know that the Brethren there are marching on to victory, and are constantly making conquests. They are not discouraged at home, and have no need to be. Whatever persons who do not know Bro. Brockwell may say to the contrary he is an army in himself, and while he breathes, that fort is secure. Then he has Bro. Plummer and a regiment of younger and older soldiers, all armed to the teeth, and always ready for service. There are others who should be mentioned, but for brevity's sake I will pass them by this time.

The success we are having everywhere is indeed gratifying. It exceeds our fondest expectations, and is calculated to brighten our hopes for the future. All we need to do is to be true to our gospel alone doctrine, and God's blessing will attend our labor and influence. In a few years, if we are faithful, we shall see a mighty army, well armed and disciplined, making such conquests as we have not dreamed of. If we should fail, it must be through our own unfaithfulness, and I hope this sin may never be laid to our charge.

J. W. Beer.

March 18, 1887.

Johnstown, Pa.

March 16.—The readers of the B. E. will no doubt desire to know what was the result of the mission project in which I was engaged when I last wrote, and I will try to tell them. I will say I only preached four sermons while I was gone, two in New Paris and two in Pleasantville, (Alum Bank) both of them in the houses of the Evangelical Association. As to results, I do not know that any one was converted, but I did find several who expressed a desire to join our church if we had an organization in that vicinity. I found that we were very little known in that section as a church, and somebody is responsible for it. I tried to do my part of shifting responsibility off my shoulders by private conversation upon the subject, as well as by public preaching wherever a door of utterance was given and distributed a number of tracts. I was fully satisfied that, to be a missionary, though it be but a home missionary, without an organization and a treasury to back up was more than I was able for, as I came home tired, tried and penniless. So this suggests to me the urgent demand of a state organization to this end and if we do not mean to have one in Pa., let us give up the pretense of being progressive. Can we not have one in May or June, prior to the National Convention? I know of a number of places I could be profitably engaged, *or some one else who is better adapted to the work*, if we had something permanent to recommend the people to in the way of future wants of those who might feel to cast their lots with us. Who will respond? Say yes, by the help of God we will. A time and place will be arranged by me if none else. Now do not conclude that Replogle wants to be a missionary, because you may soon hear that R. Z. is engaged in other work more profitable financially.

In conclusion will not some one who is in approximate distance attend the "Anti-secret Convention" at Chicago on the 30th, to be able to give us an unbiased report, as a pointer for our convention? As it is a question upon which the coming convention should define itself because necessity demands it.

R. Z. Replogle.

Blanco, Pa.

I closed a meeting on the 14th, inst., at North Buffalo about four miles south of the Glade Run meeting house, in the Glade Run district. The Brethren of the M. E. church opened their house of worship and we enjoyed full liberty to preach the "gospel of Christ which is the power of God unto salvation." The meetings continued nine days, were well attended, a good interest was manifested and the members of the M. E. church rendered much assistance. I do hope and pray that the Lord will reward them for the labor of love in the Master's cause and for their hospitality. Elder E. H. Smith preached two excellent sermons during these meetings.

As an immediate result, three made the good confession and were buried with Christ in baptism. They were all Mary's, and I do hope they may, as a Mary of old, have chosen that good part which shall not be taken from them. Ever sit at the feet of Jesus and learn of him the many lessons that are needful for our salvation. As the cause of Christ is still progressing may we all progress in the divine life until we reach the full stature of men and women in Christ Jesus.

J. B. Wampler.

March 15th, 1887.

Altamont, Cal.

I have been attempting for the last year, to write a letter for the Evangelist, but there always seemed to be a draw back.

I became a member of the Brethren church April the 22nd, 1886, and have been trying to live a better life since.

I attend Sabbath School every Sunday at our new church. I am at present acting as secretary of our Sabbath School. We have a very pleasant S. S. Our average number of attendants for the past two months, numbered about thirty-five, and I hope when the weather is more favorable our little congregation will increase.

We have no preaching here now, and have not had since Bro. Beer left. But I do hope that some one that is capable of preaching, will soon make up his mind to come and hold services here for a while. We could have evening meetings here now if we only had some one to preach for us. Brother Wolfe has said that he intended to come, so I hope he will soon make an appearance.

Well as this is my first attempt to write, I will not write a long letter, but will try to do better some other time.

My parents take the Evangelist and I like it very much.

Addie Haas.

March 10th, 1887.

Logan, Ohio.

March 12.—Today was a called council, and it seems the members did not understand it, as only a few met, and I was a little late in coming in; but to my surprise there were two applicants for baptism. We repaired to brother Jonas Beer's, and the holy ordinance was performed by brother Henerit and they arose to walk in newness of life. May God bless them is my prayer. O may I be surprised many more times like that.

The Evangelist has brought many good news to us, and we do say amen to the article of the dear sister, on the waste of money in foolish ways; and I could say amen to some brother or sister if he would preach an article through the paper, on drunkenness.

We ask the prayers of the brethren and sisters that we may ever be found at the cross of Christ and doing that which will be a blessing to us. The harvest is ripe, let us be about our Master's business, and gather the precious grain.

Brother J. H. Worst, I will give you an invitation to come to Mt. Zion.

John Kistler.

Dayton, Ohio.

Bro. R. F. Mallott commenced a series of meetings at this place Wednesday, the 16th. The meetings are growing in interest daily. The indications are that our cozy church room will be full to overflowing next Sabbath.

Ordinary meals are absolutely necessary to make life enjoyable, but a spiritual feast causes all trouble to vanish and gives us a foretaste of the joys awaiting the "chosen of God" in the kingdom of heaven. We are happy and why should we not be? We have had no such precious season since our meetings of five weeks last winter. Surely every member of this congregation will receive spiritual strength and realize that the "preaching of the gospel is the power of God and the wisdom of God."

Brother Mallott preaches the word in demonstration of the spirit and of power and sings those sacred songs in the same manner. Never before was I so forcibly impressed with the sentiment contained in the language of the angel to the Shepherds, as when I heard it from the lips of our brother in sacred song. When he sings, he preaches but not *vice versa*. The Lord bless him and the cause he advocates.

S. Kiehl.

Dayton, O., March 19, 1887.

Dunlaps, Ind.

March 14.—There has not been a report from this congregation for some time. Yesterday, though it was cold and stormy, Bro. Ditch's wife was baptized by Bro. George Neff. May Sister Ditch become a faithful member in the church of Christ. Bro. L. W. Ditch is the minister of this congregation for this year. He is a whole-souled, energetic preacher of the gospel and does not fear to declare the truth of the gospel. He is at present away holding a protracted meeting with wonderful success. The church now numbers 20 members at this place and I think are all in peace and union. We ask the prayers of the church at large for the Dunlap congregation and its pastor

Ida F. Stutzman.

From Pleasant Hill, Ohio.

Saturday and Lord's day being Bro. Mason's regular appointment, he was with us. It being eight weeks since he was here, we were all hungry for some good preaching, and we got it. Some that don't belong to any church says he preached the best sermons Saturday evening and Sunday morning they ever heard. He is not a Mason by trade, but he built the Gospel Trowel to perfection. We have been having protracted meetings in the different churches, since the first week in January. We had two accessions to our church Sunday morning. Brother and Sister Ira Oakes formerly of the G. B. church.

W. T. Harrison.

March 8, 1887.

Cruelty.

It is a cruel thing to send a boy out into the world untaught that alcohol in any form is fire and will certainly burn him if he puts it into his stomach. It is a cruel thing to educate a boy in such a way that he has no adequate idea of the dangers that beset his path. It is a mean thing to send a boy out to take his place in society without understanding the relation of temperance to his own safety and prosperity and that of society. The national wealth goes into the ground. If we could only manage to bury it without having it pass thitherward in the form of a poisonous liquid through the inflamed bodies of our neighbors and friends, happy should we be. But this great abominable curse dominates the world. The more thoroughly we can instruct the young concerning this dominating evil, the better it will be for them and for the world.—J. G. Holland.